

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OES-06
NRC-05 ERDA-05 /096 W
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P R 171814Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4160
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 21264

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GW, US, UK, FR, UR
SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AT QUADRIpartite AMBASSADORIAL
LUNCHEON ON DECEMBER 17

1. THE AMBASSADORIAL LUNCHEON ON DECEMBER 17 WAS
HOSTED BY THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR. STATE SECRETARY
GEHLHOFF REPRESENTED THE GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE. THE
FOLLOWING ITEMS OF INTEREST WERE TOUCHED ON.

2. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR MENTIONED IN VERY
LOW KEY SPECULATION THAT THERE MIGHT EXIST DIFFERENT
LINES OF POLICY REGARDING BERLIN ON THE PART OF THE
FEDERAL CHANCELLERY ON THE ONE HAND AND THE FOREIGN
OFFICE ON THE OTHER, AND WONDERED IF GEHLHOFF HAD ANY
COMMENT. GEHLHOFF GAVE AN AMBIGUOUS REPLY IN WHICH
HE EVADED A DIRECT ANSWER. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT
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QUESTIONS ABOUT BERLIN POLICY HAD BEEN CONSIDERED
DURING THE COALITION NEGOTIATIONS BUT SAID THEY HAD
NOT BEEN DECIDED. GEHLHOFF REMARKED THAT, AS WILL
HAVE BEEN OBSERVED, THERE WERE NO SURPRISES ABOUT
BERLIN IN THE CHANCELLOR'S POLICY DECLARATION OF DE-
CEMBER 16, AND NO NEW DEPARTURES WERE OUTLINED.

HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS COULD BE SEEN AS A REFLECTION OF THE PRESENT STATE OF CONSIDERATION OF BERLIN MATTERS IN THE GOVERNMENT, I.E. THAT DECISIONS REMAIN TO BE TAKEN.

3. GEHLHOFF CONTINUED THAT, WITH REGARD TO CONTACTS WITH THE GDR, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL PURSUE ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS AND CONTACTS AND IS NOW PREPARING FOR NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE COMPLEX OF QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE TELTOW CANAL, SPANDAU LOCK, THE DUCKBILL, AND THE SUEDELAENDE. HE DID NOT INCLUDE THE S-BAHN IN HIS LISTING. GEHLHOFF SAID THAT THE APPROACH TO BE FOLLOWED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION AND THAT A PRELIMINARY PAPER REGARDING THE APPROACH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE BONN GROUP SOMETIME IN JANUARY. THE AMBASSADORS EXPRESSED THEIR SATISFACTION THAT FULL CONSULTATION IN THE BONN GROUP WAS ENVISAGED ON THESE MATTERS.

4. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR STRESSED THAT IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO INSURE THAT THE BERLIN SENAT NOT APPEAR AS THE NEGOTIATING AGENT ON THESE MATTERS, SINCE THIS COULD GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SENAT WAS NEGOTIATING ON BEHALF OF AN "INDEPENDENT" WEST BERLIN. GEHLHOFF AGREED.

5. GEHLHOFF EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION OF THE ALLIED IN THE BONN GROUP IN RECENT MONTHS, PARTICULARLY IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATION OF THE STUDIES ON REPRESENTATION OF BERLIN BY THE FRG AND AN
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OUTLINE OF THE CURRENT SITUATION AND PROSPECTS. HE ALSO WAS GRATIFIED WITH THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO THESE DOCUMENTS BY THE ALLIED MINISTERS AT THE RECENT NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING.

6. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM WORMSER TO ME AS TO WHETHER WE COULD EXPECT DIFFICULTIES WITH THE SOVIETS IN THE FUTURE REGARDING THE QUESTION OF BERLIN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, I RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY. HOWEVER, I SAID I HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN THE ACCOUNT WE HAD HEARD (SEPTEL) OF THE DE LEUSSE-GROMYKO DISCUSSION ON THIS QUESTION IN MOSCOW, DURING WHICH GROMYKO REPORTEDLY HAD SAID THAT DE LEUSSE'S STATEMENT HAD ANSWERED THE CORE OF THE SOVIET POSITION. WORMSER DID NOT COMMENT.

7. WORMSER SAID HE FELT THAT THE SOVIETS MIGHT IN FACT HAVE A POINT IN THE HYPOTHETICAL CASE THAT EN-

LARGED POWERS ACTUALLY WERE GIVEN TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, SINCE THIS MIGHT BE SEEN AS AFFECTING
BERLIN. IT WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE CLEAR THAT ENLARGED
POWERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT COULD NOT IN ANY WAY

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DEROGATE FROM THE AUTHORITY OF THE THREE PROTECTING
POWERS IN WEST BERLIN. WORMSER ADDED HE FELT THAT THE
WESTERN POWERS SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THEIR POSITION PROMPT-
LY IN ORDER TO COUNTERACT POSSIBLE SOVIET PROPAGANDA
ON THE SUBJECT.

8. IN A DISCUSSION OF THE BREZHNEV VISIT TO THE FRG
NEXT YEAR, GEHLHOFF SAID THAT NO DATES HAD BEEN FIXED
AND THERE HAD BEEN NO CONTACTS WITH THE SOVIETS ON
TIMING. HE SPECULATED THAT BREZHNEV MIGHT WISH TO
HAVE A MEETING WITH THE NEW AMERICAN PRESIDENT BEFORE
COMING TO THE FRG, WHICH COULD AFFECT THE TIMING OF
THE LATTER TRIP. ON THE THREE OUTSTANDING AGREEMENTS
HELD UP BECAUSE OF SOVIET REFUSAL TO ACCEPT AN ADE-

QUATE BERLIN CLAUSE, GEHLHOFF STATED THAT THE FRG
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HOPES THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WILL AGREE TO SIGN THESE AGREEMENTS DURING A BREZHNEV VISIT, BUT THE FRG IS NOT COUNTING ON THIS. HE THOUGHT THE SOVIETS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS AND THAT IT WAS CONCEIVABLE THAT SOME SUBSTANCE COULD BE GIVEN TO THE VISIT BY THE GERMANS IN THIS AREA, ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO SPECIFICS ON HOW THIS MIGHT BE DONE. QUERIED ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR REVIVING THE KALININGRAD NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT, GEHLHOFF SAID HE HAD HEARD NOTHING NEW ON THIS SUBJECT BUT WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THAT PROGRESS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

9. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY REGARDING FRG EVALUATION OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE GDR, GEHLHOFF SAID IT IS CLEAR THAT CONSIDERABLE TENSIONS EXIST BUT THE FRG BELIEVES THEY CAN BE MANAGED BY THE GDR REGIME. HOWEVER, THE SITUATION IS FRAGILE AND IT WAS DIFFICULT TO PREDICT WITH CERTAINTY WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN. HE ALSO REMARKED THAT POLAND WAS HAVING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES AND THAT IF ANY DISTURBANCES TOOK PLACE THERE, THEY COULD AGGRAVATE MATTERS IN THE GDR.

10. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION IN THE GROUP OF THE FORTHCOMING BELGRADE REVIEW CONFERENCE, BUT NOTHING NEW OF SUBSTANCE WAS FORTHCOMING. WORMSER NOTED THE DANGER OF ANY ATTEMPT TO ENLARGE THE SCOPE OF THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT AND GEHLHOFF AGREED EMPHATICALLY. HE SAID THE FRG MIGHT AGREE TO CONSIDER ANOTHER REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE BELGRADE TYPE WITHIN TWO YEARS, BUT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD WISH TO SEE ANOTHER AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED OF THE HELSINKI TYPE.

11. QUERIED ABOUT REPORTS THAT WISCHNEWSKI IN HIS NEW POSITION IN THE CHANCELLERY WOULD HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BERLIN AND INNER-GERMAN MATTERS, GEHLHOFF SEEMED SOMEWHAT UNCOMFORTABLE AND UNCERTAIN IN HIS
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RESPONSE. HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT WISCHNEWSKI WOULD FUNCTION AS THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR THE CHANCELLERY AND IN THIS CAPACITY WOULD DEAL WITH PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS CONCERNING BERLIN AND POLICY TOWARD EAST GERMANY. HE STATED THAT RUHFUS WOULD ASSUME

THE FUNCTIONS OF SANNE.

12. I REPORTED BRIEFLY ON MY PROTOCOL CALL ON ABRASIMOV ON DECEMBER 10, AND ALSO ON MY DINNER CONVERSATION WITH FALIN AND ARBATOV ON DECEMBER 6, NOTING THAT ON THE LATTER OCCASION THERE HAD BEEN LITTLE DISCUSSION OF BERLIN.

13. GEHLHOFF MENTIONED THAT WORD HAD JUST BEEN RECEIVED THAT ZAMYATIN WOULD BE VISITING BONN ON DECEMBER 22 FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS. HE WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO THE REASON FOR THIS TRIP, BUT IT MIGHT BE SEEN AS A RETURN VISIT FOR THE ONE MADE TO MOSCOW PREVIOUSLY BY FEDERAL PRESS SPOKESMAN BOELLING.
STOESSEL

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